United Nations S/PRST/2015/1

Security Council

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8 January 2015

Original: English

Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 7356th meeting of the Security Council, held on 8 January 2015, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council recalls its Presidential Statement of 5 November 2014 and reiterates its deep concern regarding the security and humanitarian crisis in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) due to ongoing destabilizing activities of foreign and domestic armed groups, and stresses the importance of neutralizing all armed groups, including, among others, the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR).

"The Security Council notes that the January 2nd deadline set by the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) has passed, and that the FDLR has not only failed to unconditionally and fully surrender and demobilize, but has also continued to recruit new fighters in their ranks.

"The Security Council, while noting the surrender of an estimated 300 former rank and file members of the FDLR in 2014, consisting of mainly old and non-essential combatants, stresses that such surrenders alone are insufficient to end the threat posed by the group, and does not come close to representing the full demobilization of the FDLR as called for by the ICGLR, SADC, and the Security Council.

"The Security Council further recalls that the swift neutralization of the FDLR is a top priority in bringing stability to and protecting the civilians of the DRC and the Great Lakes region, in line with the wider commitments made in the Peace, Security and Cooperation (PSC) Framework for the DRC and the region.

"The Security Council notes the DRC government's January 2nd statement in which it stated that military action against the FDLR is now "inevitable", and that the region, represented by the ICGLR and SADC, has made clear its support for military action by the DRC and the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the DRC (MONUSCO), in the absence of the full demobilization of the FDLR, including its military leadership, with the objective of ending the threat posed by the group.

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Security Council

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 7359th meeting of the Security Council, held on 14 January 2015, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Post-conflict peacebuilding", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council recalls its resolutions and the statements of its President on post-conflict peacebuilding, in particular S/PRST/2009/23, S/PRST/2010/20, S/PRST/2011/2, S/PRST/2011/4 and S/PRST/2012/29, and reaffirms the critical importance of peacebuilding as the foundation for sustainable peace and development in the aftermath of conflict.

"The Security Council takes note with appreciation of the Secretary-General's report on Peacebuilding in the aftermath of conflict (S/2014/694) and the country-specific evidence of impacts and lessons learned it contains.

"The Security Council recognizes that peacebuilding is an important element of the United Nations efforts in countries emerging from conflict; and reaffirms that sustainable peace and security requires an integrated sustained approach based on coherence among political, security and developmental approaches which are essential for effectively improving the respect for human rights, advancing gender equality, strengthening the rule of law, and advancing economic development in countries emerging from conflict, recognizing the specific needs and situation of the country concerned.

"The Security Council underlines that the primary responsibility for successful peacebuilding lies with national governments and relevant local actors, including civil society, in countries emerging from conflict.

"The Security Council emphasizes the importance of inclusivity in advancing national peacebuilding processes and objectives in order to ensure that the needs of all segments of society are taken into account.

"The Security Council reaffirms that national ownership and leadership is key to establishing sustainable peace and reaffirms also the primary responsibility of national authorities in identifying their priorities and strategies for post-conflict peacebuilding.

"The Security Council underscores that peacebuilding, in particular, institution building, the extension of State authority and the re-establishment of core public administration functions, requires sustained international and national attention, and financial and technical support in order to effectively

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build and sustain peace in countries emerging from conflict. The Security Council recognizes that the gaps in the provision of rapid and sustained financial support continue to hamper peacebuilding efforts. The Security Council welcomes the role played by the United Nations' Peacebuilding Fund in filling these gaps and urges Member States to contribute to the Fund and other relevant multi-donor trust funds that support countries emerging from conflict in order to replenish them.

"The Security Council recognizes recent successes in collective peacebuilding efforts of the United Nations and the wider international community and also acknowledges the setbacks and the challenges that the United Nations system, including the Council and the wider international community, have faced in preventing or reducing the risks of relapse into conflict. The Security Council expresses its determination to continue to take into consideration the underlying causes of relapse into conflict.

"The Security Council looks forward to the outcome of the 2015 review of the Peacebuilding Architecture and to the consideration of its recommendations in order to improve the peacebuilding capacity of the United Nations system, inter alia, by strengthening the performance and impact of Peacebuilding Architecture with the view to realize its full potential in line with the agreed terms of reference.

"The Security Council underlines the need for the review of the Peacebuilding Architecture to be undertaken in conjunction and synergy with the upcoming Secretary General's review of peace operations.

"The Security Council recognizes the continuing need to increase women's participation and the consideration of gender-related issues in all discussions pertinent to the prevention and resolution of armed conflict, the maintenance of peace and security, and post-conflict peacebuilding.

"The Security Council recalls its resolution 1645 (2005) and acknowledges the important role of the Peacebuilding Commission in the Peacebuilding Architecture and stresses its willingness to strengthen its links with the Peacebuilding Commission by, inter alia, making greater use of its advisory role. The Council calls upon the Commission to make further efforts in promoting improved coherence and alignment of partner's policies around national peacebuilding strategies and priorities, and ensure regional and international support and effective response through engagement and establishing partnerships with international financial institutions, neighbouring countries and regional and subregional organizations. The Security Council underscores the importance of the regional aspect of peacebuilding and the need for engaging and collaborating with regional actors in policy related and country-specific issues in the advice made by the Peacebuilding Commission.

"The Security Council notes that the Peacebuilding Commission's advisory role to the Council is particularly appreciated in view of its contribution to the implementation of the Council's mandates on the ground in countries on its agenda.

"The Security Council requests the Secretary-General to brief the Council by December 2015 and to submit a report to the Council no later than December 2016 on further United Nations peacebuilding efforts in the

aftermath of conflict, including progress towards increasing the participation of women in peacebuilding, taking into consideration the views of the Peacebuilding Commission".

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Security Council

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 7361st meeting of the Security Council, held on 19 January 2015, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Maintenance of international peace and security: Inclusive development for the maintenance of international peace and security", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council reaffirms its primary responsibility under the Charter of the United Nations for the maintenance of international peace and security and its readiness to strive for sustainable peace in all situations under its consideration.

"The Security Council underlines that security and development are closely interlinked and mutually reinforcing and key to attaining sustainable peace. The Council recognizes that their relationship is complex, multifaceted and case-specific.

"The Security Council reiterates that, in order to support a country to emerge sustainably from conflict, there is a need for a comprehensive and integrated approach that incorporates and strengthens coherence between political, security, development, human rights and rule of law activities, and addresses the root causes of each conflict, including through strengthening the rule of law at national and international levels, promoting sustainable economic growth and development, poverty eradication, political, religious and cultural tolerance, freedom of opinion and expression, social cohesion and inclusiveness, national reconciliation, good governance, democracy, gender equality, respect for, and protection of, human rights, and facilitating reintegration and rehabilitation.

"The Security Council affirms that national ownership and national responsibility are key to establishing sustainable peace. The Council reaffirms the primary responsibility of national authorities in identifying their priorities and strategies for post-conflict peacebuilding, with a view to ensuring national ownership.

"The Security Council underlines that integrated action on the ground by security and development actors needs to be coordinated with the national authorities and can significantly contribute to stabilizing and improving the security situation and ensuring the protection of civilians. The Council also

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notes the importance of cooperation with civil society in this context. The Council affirms that sustainable peace and development cannot be achieved without the inclusion of all relevant stakeholders and underlines that women must be included as active participants in all stages of peacebuilding, peace agreements and development programs. The Council expresses its willingness to engage in dialogue, where necessary, on specific situations on its agenda with other actors, including UN agencies, funds, and programmes and international financial institutions.

"The Security Council encourages Member States to consider developing a UN common approach to inclusive development as a key for preventing conflict and enabling long-term stability and sustainable peace. The Council highlights in this regard the importance of identifying and addressing social, economic, political, cultural and religious exclusion, intolerance, as well as violent extremism, which can be conducive to terrorism, as drivers of conflict. The Council further notes the importance of early awareness and consideration of situations of exclusion in post-conflict States and draws the attention of Member States to the contribution that mitigation actions, including those based on best available practices and models of inclusiveness at the local, national, regional and global levels, can make in this regard.

"The Council recognizes the continuing need to increase women's participation and the consideration of gender-related issues in all discussions pertinent to the prevention and resolution of armed conflict, the maintenance of peace and security, and post-conflict peacebuilding and reiterates its intention when establishing and renewing the mandates of United Nations missions, to include provisions on the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women in conflict and post-conflict situations.

"The Council calls upon Member States to take concrete measures to further assist youth, particularly those in armed conflict situations, and encourages the involvement of young people, where appropriate, in activities concerning the protection of children and youth affected by armed conflict situations, including in conflict prevention, peacebuilding and postconflict processes.

"The Security Council recalls the need for inclusive and effective disarmament, demobilization and reintegration processes (DDR), including those relating to the release and reintegration of children formerly associated with armed forces or armed groups, with the involvement of affected individuals and local communities, while respecting the need to fight against impunity.

"The Security Council stresses that terrorist groups benefiting from transnational organized crime may contribute to undermining affected States, specifically their security, stability, governance, social and economic development, complicating conflict prevention and resolution efforts. The Security Council emphasizes that the combined presence of terrorism, violent extremism, and transnational organized crime may exacerbate conflicts in affected regions and notes that terrorist groups benefiting from transnational organized crime can, in some cases and in some regions, complicate conflict prevention and resolution efforts.

"The Security Council encourages Member States to engage relevant local communities and non-governmental actors in developing strategies, including through interreligious, interethnic and intercultural dialogue, to counter the violent extremist narrative that can incite terrorist acts, address the conditions conducive to the spread of violent extremism, which can be conducive to terrorism, including by empowering youth, families, women, religious, cultural and education leaders, and all other concerned groups of civil society and adopt tailored approaches to countering recruitment to this kind of violent extremism and promoting social inclusion and cohesion.

"The Security Council re-emphasizes the importance of considering and initiating peacebuilding activities from the earliest stages of planning and implementation of peacekeeping operations, as appropriate, including through clear and achievable mandates. The Council stresses the importance of clarity of roles and responsibilities of the UN peacekeeping operation and the UN country team and other relevant actors for the delivery of prioritized support to a country consistent with its specific peacebuilding needs and priorities, as outlined by national authorities, in order to ensure effective integration of efforts, in particular where peacekeeping missions and special political missions are operating alongside other UN peacebuilding actors, and regional and subregional organizations. The Security Council further emphasizes the importance of integration of UN efforts during the transition process of Security Council-mandated operations.

"The Security Council notes that successful implementation of the many tasks that peacekeeping operations could be mandated to undertake in the areas of security sector reform; disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration; rule of law; transitional justice; and human rights requires an understanding of and acting with a perspective which takes into account the close interlinkage between security and development. In this context, the Council notes with appreciation the contribution that peacekeepers and peacekeeping missions make to early peacebuilding, including through creating a conducive environment which enables economic recovery and the provision of basic services. The Council acknowledges that this contribution can help to establish and build confidence in the mission.

"The Council underlines that reconstruction, economic revitalization and capacity-building constitute crucial elements for the long-term development of post-conflict societies and in generating sustainable peace, and, in this regard, attaches special importance to national ownership and stresses the significance of international assistance.

"The Security Council notes that in matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security under its consideration, conflict analysis and contextual information on, inter alia, social and economic issues is important, when such issues are drivers of conflict, represent a challenge to the implementation of Council mandates or endanger the process of consolidation of peace. In this regard, the Council requests the Secretary-General to ensure that his reporting to the Council contains such contextual information.

"The Security Council recalls the role played by the illegal exploitation of natural resources in fuelling some past and current conflicts. In this regard, the Security Council recognizes that the United Nations can play a role in

helping the States concerned, as appropriate, upon their request and with full respect for their sovereignty over natural resources and under national ownership, to prevent illegal access to those resources and to lay the basis for their legal exploitation with a view to promoting development, in particular through the empowerment of governments in post-conflict situations to better manage their resources.

"The Security Council encourages close cooperation within the United Nations system and with regional, sub-regional, and other organizations on the ground and at Headquarters in order to properly engage in conflict and post-conflict situations, in accordance with its responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations, and expresses its willingness to consider ways to improve such cooperation.

"The Security Council calls for the rapid implementation, in consultation with regional organizations, of regional strategies encompassing security, governance, development, human rights and humanitarian issues such as the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel region.

"The Security Council encourages Member States, particularly those represented on the governance structures of the UN agencies, funds, and programmes, to promote coherence in the United Nations' work in conflict and post-conflict situations.

"The Security Council recalls its resolution 1645 (2005) and acknowledges the important role of the Peacebuilding Commission in the Peacebuilding Architecture and stresses its willingness to strengthen its links with the Peacebuilding Commission by, inter alia, making greater use of its advisory role. The Council calls upon the Commission to make further efforts in promoting improved coherence and alignment of partner's policies around national peacebuilding strategies and priorities, and ensure regional and international support and effective response through engagement and establishing partnerships with international financial institutions, neighbouring countries and regional and subregional organizations. The Security Council underscores the importance of the regional aspect of peacebuilding and the need for engaging and collaborating with regional actors in policy related and country-specific issues in the advice made by the Peacebuilding Commission

"The Security Council highlights the contribution that the Economic and Social Council can make in addressing economic, social, cultural and humanitarian issues and underlines the importance of close cooperation in accordance with Article 65 of the Charter of the United Nations."

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Security Council

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19 January 2015

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 7362nd meeting of the Security Council, held on 19 January 2015, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council condemns in the strongest terms the most recent escalation in attacks perpetrated by Boko Haram, in particular, the 10 and 11 January 2015 suicide bombings in Maiduguri, Borno State and Potiskum, Yobe State, reportedly involving children coerced by Boko Haram to act as suicide bombers, the 3-7 January 2015 attacks in Baga, Borno State, which resulted in the massive destruction of civilian homes and significant civilian casualties, as well as the increasing attacks in the Lake Chad Basin region along Nigeria's borders with Chad and Cameroon and in the northern provinces of Cameroon.

"The Security Council reaffirms that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations is criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of its motivation, wherever, whenever and by whomsoever committed. The Security Council reaffirms that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group.

"The Security Council expresses its deep sympathy and condolences to the families of the victims and expresses its sympathy to all those injured in these attacks, and to the people and the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as well as the people and Governments of other affected countries.

"The Security Council strongly condemns and deplores all abuses of human rights and, where applicable, violations of international humanitarian law by the terrorist group Boko Haram, since 2009, including those involving violence against civilian populations, notably women and children, kidnappings, killings, hostage-taking, pillaging, rape, sexual slavery and other sexual violence, recruitment of children and destruction of civilian property. The Security Council expresses serious concern over the reported violations and abuses of human rights and large-scale displacements of civilian population, including into Nigeria's neighbouring countries. The Security Council recalls its decision to place Boko Haram on the Al-Qaida sanctions list.

"The Security Council demands that Boko Haram immediately and unequivocally cease all hostilities and all abuses of human rights and

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violations of international humanitarian law and disarm and demobilise. The Security Council demands the immediate and unconditional release of all those abducted who remain in captivity, including the 276 schoolgirls abducted in Chibok, Borno State in April 2014. The Security Council recognizes that some of such acts may amount to crimes against humanity and stresses that those responsible for all abuses and violations of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law must be held accountable. The Security Council reiterates the primary responsibility of Member States to protect civilian populations on their territories, in accordance with their obligations under international law.

"The Security Council expresses its concern at the scale of the growing humanitarian crisis caused by the activities of Boko Haram, which has resulted in the large-scale displacement of Nigerians within the country and into neighbouring Cameroon, Chad and Niger. The Security Council, in this regard, commends the support provided to the refugees by the Governments of the said countries, including with the assistance of humanitarian actors and relevant United Nations entities, and calls on the international community to provide its support in areas which require urgent attention.

"The Security Council expresses deep concern that the activities of Boko Haram are undermining the peace and stability of the West and Central African region.

"The Security Council takes note of the outcome of the 17 May 2014 Paris Summit, which underscored the commitment of the countries in the Lake Chad Basin region, including with the support of bilateral and multilateral partners, to enhance information sharing, coordination and joint operations, to more effectively combat Boko Haram, as well as the outcomes of the follow-up London and Abuja ministerial meetings. The Security Council also takes note of the 7 October 2014 communiqué of the Extraordinary Summit of the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC) Heads of State, as well as the 25 November 2014 communiqué of the African Union Peace and Security Council on the efforts of the LCBC Member States and Benin to combat Boko Haram.

"The Security Council takes note of the decision of the LCBC Member States and Benin to operationalise the Multinational Joint Task Force, including through the establishment of a joint Headquarters and the deployment of national contingents, to conduct military operations against Boko Haram.

"The Security Council welcomes plans for a regional meeting in Niamey, Niger, on 20 January 2015 to discuss the regional response to the threat posed by Boko Haram. The Security Council urges the LCBC Member States and Benin to undertake further planning toward the sustainable, viable and effective operationalization of the Multinational Joint Task Force. The Security Council, in this regard, urges them to identify the means and modalities of the envisaged deployment, especially in the areas of intelligence sharing and joint operations.

"The Security Council welcomes the assistance to the States in the region already being provided by bilateral and multilateral partners and encourages

them to increase support to enhance the operational capacity of the Multinational Joint Task Force, including through the provision of financial and logistical assistance, relevant equipment and of modalities to increase effective intelligence sharing to further the region's collective efforts to combat Boko Haram more effectively. The Security Council underlines that all operations of the Multinational Joint Task Force must be conducted in full compliance with international law, including international humanitarian law and human rights law.

"The Security Council takes note of the Communiqué of the Government of Chad, issued on 14 January 2015, which pledged active support in the fight against Boko Haram. The Security Council welcomes the vote by the National Assembly of Chad on 16 January 2015, which authorized Chadian armed troops and security forces to assist Cameroonian and Nigerian soldiers in the fight against Boko Haram terrorists.

"The Security Council underlines the need to bring perpetrators, organizers, financiers and sponsors of these reprehensible acts of terrorism to justice in accordance with international law and relevant Security Council resolutions."